



M MacDonald College

n 97 mars 1981

THE HARVEST

LA ROYALE, ET APRES?

Il y aura surement du monde pour dire que la Royale, cette année, a été un fiasco d'envergure. La supposée faible participation étudiante et le public restreint qui s'est déplacé pour l'événement en ont découragé plus d'un. On a tous été habitué à juger de la valeur d'un événement par l'importance de la foule

qu'il attire. Et pourtant...

Et pourtant ce samedi-là, en dégustant ma petite bière "home-made", je regardais tout le travail qu'on avait fait dans notre lab de micro. Je repensais à nos fiévreuses installations de dernières minutes, et à toutes les sortes de talent déployés pour que tout soit

compréhensible... pis je ne pouvais pas croire à un fiasco.

Nos universités font souvent figure de tours d'ivoire. Immeubles obscurs, intouchables, presque hantés par les "génies" qui y ont perdu leurs cheveux. Vu des couches de la population qui n'ont pas pu, y entrer, mais qui auraient bien voulu s'y rendre; l'université, c'est quelque chose de trop beau pour que l'on puisse espérer comprendre ce qui s'y passe.

Avez-vous déjà eu la chance de voir les conditions de travail des travailleurs(euses) qui paient, à travers leurs taxes, pour nos frais universitaires?

On travaille peut-être fort dans nos belles salles chauffées, mais on ne peut pas dire que l'on court après les maladies industrielles

Alors, pour motiver la Royale et tout le remue-ménage qu'elle occasionne dans nos beaux horaires, je me dis qu'elle est l'expression de la conscience sociale

universitaire. C'est notre façon à nous autres de dire au monde qui nous entoure ce qu'on fait. Même que, je me prends à rêver, j'espère qu'un jour l'université comprendra son rôle d'éducation sociale à un point tel que le travail pour la Royale sera crédité (juste un ou deux crédits, je ne rêve pas en couleur quand même). A court terme, ce serait bien s'il n'y avait pas d'examen ou de quizz la semaine suivant la Royale

Un fiasco est donc impossible pour la Royale. Les participants y auront rencontré la difficulté d'expliquer à tout le monde ce qu'ils font; alors que quiconque y sera venu aura eu la chance d'apprendre du neuf.

Et même si personne ne venait à la Royale, ce qui serait évidemment triste, les participants auront eu à faire face à un effort de vulgarisation, découlant peut-être sur une ébauche de conscience sociale.

S'il y a un "Mac Spirit", c'est vraiment à la Royale qu'on devrait s'en apercevoir. En passant, j'ai trouvé la ben l'un que 90% des non-gradués de microbiologie participent à la Royale.

Pierre Martin

RECYCLING THE CAMPUS

Many people still do not know that they can recycle their paper, since a paper recycling program has been set

at the college. many more seem to ignore how to proceed with it and how important it is to do it correctly. Here it is:

FIRST

You CAN now recycle:

- all drafting paper (except the prints)
- reproduction paper (xerox, IBM)
- note pads
- scratch paper
- white envelopes
- binder divider
- index and computer cards
- bond paper
- reports

you CAN'T yet recycle in this paper program:

- carbon paper
- newspapers
- magazines
- waxed papers
- gummed labels
- cardboard
- kraft paper (brown envelopes & bags)
- plastic
- glass
- food container, cigarettes
- others....

SECOND

It is necessary to stress that problem occur when non recyclable things or assorted contaminants are put into this system; for examples someone must do extra-work to get rid of them, the grade obtained is lower or just not acceptable for recycling at all.

this program was not set for student's paper only but also for all offices of the main buildings (MS, B, R). It is estimated that 1-2 tons of paper can be recycled each month if there is a good participation.

Collection of papers works on an individual basis, each person bringing his/her own papers, kept aside for

when she/he passes by a labelled bin. Easy to do but hard to remember at first... When bins are full, staff janitors as they do their usual work empty the bins and carry the papers to a bigger container in the basement.

From there, paper is then shipped by the YMCA of Pointe-Claire to a paper mill to be used again. Of course it decreases the amount of waste and increases wood use efficiency. The program will probably run throughout the year and also for years to come.

SO recycle yourself and Help to make it work...

Maybe you will get some good habits from doing it.....

Ecolifestyle group

SYNDICATS de GESTION AGRICOLE ??

LES SYNDICATS DE GESTION
AGRICOLE, QU'EST-CE QUE C'EST?

L'idée d'un syndicat de gestion agricole prenait forme il y a une vingtaine d'années, pour répondre au retard "québécois" en comptabilité et en gestion des entreprises.

Concrètement, ce n'est qu'en 1968 que le premier SGA prend forme avec le



ROYAL: When the judge thinks...

SPIT AND POLISH

The quintessential symbol of the military life is about to cave into the demands of technology. The US Dept. of Defense has announced it will eliminate boots shone by spit and polish because they show up too brightly in enemy infra-red detectors. These devices can spot the mirror-like boots even from the air. So, starting in 1983, the US Marine Corps will try out new boots of dull leather- that they will be forbidden to shine

From New Scientist

Poésie

As long as I was living in the village,
They said I was the finest man around,
But yesterday I went to the city,
And even the dogs eyed me askance.
Some people jeered at my skimpy trousers,
Other said my jacket was too long.
If someone could poke out the eyes of the hawks,
We sparrows could dance wherever we please.

Han Shan, chinese poet, 200 before J-C.

Je me souviens des endroits que j'ai rencontrés autrefois,
Parmi les humains, j'ai successivement parcouru les lieux célèbres,
Prenant plaisir aux montagnes, j'ai escaladé dix mille toises
Aimant l'eau, j'ai flotté sur mille bateaux,
J'ai accompagné des visiteurs à la vallée du Luth,
Je tenais ma cithare à l'île des perroquets.
Comment aurais-je su que sous un pin
En enlaçant mes genoux j'aurais froid dans le vent cinglant.
Han Shan, poète chinois, 200 après j-c.

regroupement de producteurs des contés d'Iberville et de Missisquoi (SGAIM). En 1978, cette expérience pilote faisait, encore solitaire, ses dix ans d'existence. Un an plus tard, témoignant de sa propre expérience chez les producteurs intéressés, le SGAIM ne fait plus cavalier seul et en 1981, 28 autres SGA sont actifs au Québec.

Jusqu'à aujourd'hui, la formule s'est appliquée principalement chez les producteurs laitiers. Cependant tous les SGA voient le jour sous le signe de l'organisation puisqu'avant tout, les producteurs doivent former un groupe de cinquante personnes, parmi lesquelles sera élu, en assemblée générale, un bureau de direction composé de sept directeurs et de son président. Cette étape franchie, le groupe fait une demande de subvention au MAPAQ, afin de pourvoir partiellement au salaire du conseiller en gestion, l'autre partie étant versé par les producteurs eux-mêmes.

Lorsque le conseiller en gestion arrive au sein d'un groupe, il est bien évident qu'il répond à plusieurs demandes. En général, sa première démarche sera d'édifier un système comptable double, autant pour tout le syndicat, que chez chacun des producteurs, afin de voir les points forts et faibles du groupe et de chacun. Une telle démarche ne se fait pas du jour au lendemain; la comptabilité devant être amorcée au niveau des entreprises. Après une ou deux années financières selon le cas, le conseiller en gestion est en mesure de fournir une analyse de groupe. Par le biais de cette analyse, chaque producteur sera en mesure de réévaluer son entreprise par rapport à ses propres objectifs, et par rapport aux autres membres du syndicat. A ce titre, on passe, par l'entremise du système de syndicat de gestion impersonnel, à un système de gestion personnalisé, répondant plus directement aux besoins des agriculteurs.

La comptabilité ne reste cependant qu'un outil pour

préparer des projets chez l'agriculteurs, afin d'être en mesure de savoir si oui ou non, tels investissements correspondent aux objectifs à long terme du producteur.

Si le rôle du conseiller en gestion s'étend de l'animateur social au divulgateur d'information, les gestionnaires du syndicat sont les producteurs eux-mêmes. Ayant des réunions fréquentes avec le bureau de direction, le conseiller prend le pouls du groupe, et tente à partir de là, d'organiser des sessions d'information sur divers sujets: les fourrages, le maïs humide, gestion financière, gestion des troupeaux, etc, toujours en vue de répondre aux besoins des producteurs.

Résultat: le producteur devient un agent informé en prenant conscience de l'envergure de son entreprise et de ses besoins.

L'expérience n'est pas seulement valorisante pour l'homme. En général, c'est la femme qui met à jour les livres de comptabilité, et participant à la vie interne du syndicat, l'agent féminin peut argumenter lorsque vient le temps des prises de décisions sur l'entreprise. La preuve la plus éclatante de ce fait jaillie devant la sollicitation des vendeurs de moulée, d'engrais ou de machinerie. Qui sait si s'unir pour s'aider ne commence pas chez-soi?

Avec une participation de bien loin supérieure à 50% aux assemblées générales, les SGA deviennent un milieu de rencontre et d'action collective, où l'on peut parler ensemble de ses affaires, de projets commun à tous les producteurs, mais aussi d'apriboiser le farouche individualisme en écoutant l'expérience du voisin. Les chiffres qui font dès lors partie de la vie courante peuvent devenir une force face aux revendications de l'UPA en ce qui concerne les coûts de production. Si l'accouchement des SGA ne s'est pas fait sans douleur, on peut constater que la formule a fait du chemin...

...dans le champs

Nicolas Mesly

ASHES TO ASHES

For those who believe the only destiny of human waste is to be dumped in a river, either before or after processing, an article in the December issue of The Ecologist may set your thinking straight, or rather, circular. Human faeces and urine are as valuable fertilizer sources as animal manure. They are recyclable materials. The article suggests an alternative to replacing Britain's crumbling sewer system at a cost of over \$60,000 million. The dumping in rivers of human waste is a huge loss to the terrestrial nutrient cycle, which has been compensated for in recent years only by equally huge inputs of mineral fertilizers. Human waste doesn't have to be wasted. And recycling would also solve river pollution problems. It's a case of killing two birds with one stone, or more particularly, killing two turds for one's ***** Spinach? Asparagus? Corn? Poets needed. Apply The Harvest.

ELECTION MARCH 19

ANDREA DEROME president

Dear fellow Mac student,

The day on which you elect your students' council for 1981-1982 is approaching fast. I, as a candidate for president, would like to outline the issues that need to be solved to benefit all students, and concerns that you should think about when you cast your vote. Don't you think that the Centennial Center can be improved so it can be used by many more Mac students? Shouldn't daily and yearly activities be organized more in advance, and be better publicized? Adequate library hours should be insured all year long; students should be more aware of services available to them- are you familiar with the Health Service, Counselling Service, Off-campus housing service, student placement service and the Athletics program?

I don't claim to be able to resolve all these concerns, as many of them are largely out of our hands. I do feel that strong and constant voicing of student opinion is needed to get the ball rolling. There are dozens of such issues; make your opinions heard through the person you elect.

If elected, my main goal is to brighten the all too dormant Mac spirit by increasing and upgrading daily activities, and their advertisement, by insuring a student voice in decision-making processes at Macdonald, and by putting plans into action. Ideas and activities only get past go if they are well-organized and publicised.

Past experience and a deep concern for Macdonald are my motives for running as president. I was AUS rep on students' council this year, treasurer for Winter Carnival and Royal 1981, an activity organizer for Orientation 1980, president of my class this year, and class rep on AUS last year. I am keenly aware of what faces us next year. It is not within the scope of this article to discuss all the unresolved issues; I would rather talk to you about my views on what concerns you in particular. Get the answers to your questions, and feel free to approach me on campaign issues. Come and listen to the candidates speeches, be informed, and vote!

yours very truly,
Andrea Derome
Candidate for president,
Gen. Ag. U-2

YVES BOIS president

As I see it, the Students' Council a Charter of Student Rights.

We should know what they are defence of students' rights, and saying, even if we don't agree an animator of activities on with it. Then we can take a campus. It must protect the stand on whatever action they students, both at the academic take; let them know our level (work to get courses more particular needs.

As president of the students' Council in CEGEP I already have the contacts, and knowledge of how the RAEU works.

From my experience in helping build the Cafe Macadam, I know the problems of starting up an activity on campus; not least confronting problems in dealing with the Students' Council. A good clean-up of the bureaucracy would be very welcome.

Better communications between the council and students is needed. Communication is necessary to understand the students' needs.

Remembering the voluntary character of the Council, I believe that no salary should be paid to its members. The present council is suggesting that up to \$3200 in total could be given to council members.

It is for these reasons and many others I am presenting myself as a candidate for President of the Students' Council.

governmental level, working on the size of bursaries, and also on Yves Bois

We also have a part to play in the different Quebec movements, for example, the RAEU (Ralliement des Associations Etudiantes Universitaires). This organization defends student interests, mainly at the

governmental level, working on the size of bursaries, and also on Yves Bois

PAUL JENSEN c.c chairman

Perhaps you are unaware of what the CC Committee is. Its function is to determine administrative policies to run the building as efficiently as possible for the benefit of the Macdonald community.

If elected as chairman, I will, with all the ability entrusted to the office, make the CC as available as possible to Macdonald organizations and individuals. I would like to see the renovations of the Lounge completed, and to commence renovations of the disco side of the old bar. This area should be remodelled, I believe, so that it can be used as a multi-function center, for class parties, guest speakers, movies, variety nights, etc.

If funds are available I would also like to see some redecorating done in the Snack Bar, to cheer the area up.

At present there is no pension plan for CC employees. We, as students, seem to be insensensitive to the need for such a plan. The situation is inexcusable, and must be corrected. The committee

should set up and offer such a plan so that our employees may receive this basic employment benefit.

My experience with student groups, McGill and Macdonald administrations does, I believe, qualify me for this position. My experience is:

McGill Outing Club (MOC) activities chairman
MOC President

Rep. for X-country skiing to the Laurentian ski zone for the Prevost region.

College Royal
Gathering of the Clan
Carnival

CC Committee member

In closing, I would like to quote from former premier D. Johnson;

"It is very dangerous to have a final philosophy. In a democracy you should have men to settle the problems that exist, not politicians who set out to prove political ideals." I believe that I am one who attempts to settle the problems that exist and those that arise.

Paul Jensen
U-2 Plant Science

Candidate for CC Chairman.

EN ATTENDANT...

Des pressés

des lents

des bedaines bedonnantes

des pas de bedaine

des heureux

des soucieux

des chevelus

des chauves

des alertes

des passifs

un regard

l'observatrice observée

Johanne

LETTERS COURRIER

MARC misses the MARK

I felt rather sorry for Marc Bourjade, whose blinkered attack on bio-agr last last issue, missed the mark by 180 degrees.

I was really impressed with the concept of the country-wide monoculture, which proved so effective in controlling potato blight in Ireland last century. Certainly fungal spores can travel many miles, especially if every field they land in provides ideal conditions for multiplication. The corn blight in 1970, which led to a 10% decrease in the US, is another example.

Crop rotation on small scales does provide control of some pests; those that are not so mobile, such as those that begin their life cycle as a caterpillar. These rotations can also help control weeds.

Other strategies that Marc chose to ignore, were the many facets of bio-control, and the planting of companion crops which make the field unattractive for a potential pest.

'jach ere; pratiquement impossible a cause du prix de la terre aujourd'hui.' How about; 'Pesticides; impossible because of the high cost of cleaning up the pollution their manufacture causes, and because of the price of health care for those affected by their use.

The economics of land prices are based on the assumption that a certain yield can be obtained from the land when certain inputs have been paid for. When these inputs include high-energy requiring inorganic fertilizers and pesticides, a rise in the price of these inputs leads to a revaluation of the land, and may make practices such as fallowing more attractive.

The point is, not that fallows are a great idea, but that the value to human beings of something; pesticide, land, or whatever, is very often not reflected in its price in dollars. Certainly, agricultural chemicals will be around for a while, hopefully becoming more effective against their targets, and less against desirable species, including people.

But if biological agriculture is the end of agriculture, I suppose mankind has only been farming for the past forty years since the widespread use of agricultural chemicals, which view seems to ignore several thousand years in the history of man. It seems that myopia could be another problem accreditable to the agri-chemicals business.

Jon Waterhouse.

Education for farming in Europe and Québec

McGill University plant science professor Norman Lawson, who recently returned from a three-week visit to four European countries, says that the MacDonald Diploma Program in Agriculture is well up to standard. As in Québec, the programs which Professor Lawson examined in England, the Netherlands, West Germany and Switzerland are designed to train young people to go into farming with the capacity to become managers.

These four countries are considered to be among the most advanced in Europe in the training of farm personnel. However, for historical, social and geographic reasons, farms in Europe tend to be smaller in scale and more labour intensive than in North America. As a result, although the European farms have a constant need for trained workers, prospects for advancement in agriculture are not as promising as they are here. Much less attention is therefore given to managerial skills there. In England, for example, the forty or so county agricultural colleges devote a major effort to training apprentices in agriculture and to upgrading courses for the more experienced farm workers. They tend to train craftsmen rather than upwardly mobile potential managers.

It is virtually an accepted rule of thumb in all these countries that farm workers' wages are around two thirds of the earnings of industrial employees.

Professor Lawson, who is the Director of the MacDonald Diploma in Agriculture, was himself educated in Britain, graduating with a BSc from the University of Glasgow and a Diploma in Agriculture from the University of Reading.

He later obtained his MSc and PhD on the MacDonald campus. He was therefore able to take a particularly knowledgeable look at the English institutions which he visited. These are the National Agricultural Centre at Kenilworth (which has a strong coordinating and cooperative role with the county authorities), and three county colleges in Warwickshire, Staffordshire and Berkshire. What he found was closely paralleled in the Netherlands, West Germany and Switzerland.

Dr Lawson envied the British whose multiple, if extravagant, network of colleges enabled certain students to live at home, to work part-time and, very often, to cycle five miles to their studies. Students close to county borders are able to study in an adjacent county through a full transfer of funds between colleges.

MORE PRACTICAL TRAINING

The British system has another attractive feature. They devote more time and more individualized instruction to workshop training in practical matters like basic woodwork, metalwork and machine maintenance. Professor Lawson would be very happy if he could extend this aspect of the training offered at MacDonald but it would require substantial capital investment in buildings and equipment which would only be used intermittently. Furthermore, this would reduce the time devoted to the theoretical and managerial training which is such an important part of the MacDonald diploma program.

Although Sir William MacDonald's original foundation conceived in 1905 had a very practical as well as an academic aspect, and the first diplomas were awarded in 1909, two years after MacDonald College actually opened, the

diploma Program has had its ups and downs. However, in 1975, Québec's Ministère de l'Agriculture des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation undertook to finance the diploma program and today MacDonald offers a wide range of courses with the expected farming subjects from soil science to horticulture and from animal nutrition to beef production alongside subjects like machinery and building management and the economics of agriculture and marketing. The program also includes two summer periods of 15 weeks each devoted to practical experience on Québec farms.

Because it is necessary to limit the time devoted to routine practical work, modern North American teaching procedures are brought into play to help bridge the gap. Professor Lawson believes that lectures using a range of audio-visual aids can achieve some 85% of Europeans goals in about 10% of the time, leaving students at least recognising the fundamental skills that may be required of them even though they do not have the time to develop those skills fully during the period of the diploma program. To a considerable extent the two practical training periods - an innovation made possible by the sponsorship of the Ministry of Agriculture - help bring the program towards a balance between the theory and science of agriculture and its day-to-day practical aspects.

Public Relations Office
McGill University

ATTENTION A LA PILULE!

Dans une société constituée de son habituel apport d'institutions éducationnelles, sanitaires et légales pour ne nommer que celles-là, l'administration de la justice est sise à partir du principe que dans un contexte fort-faible, la liberté opprime et le droit libère. Fort bien, puisque le service de ce principe a permis l'inscription légale de l'étroite ligne séparant le bien du mal; sans pour autant empêcher les fruits de l'application du droit de rancir par moment assez souvent. De trier le vert de gris du bon fruit appartient de toute façon à l'évolution sociale, comme du développement de chacun, et représente le plus sûr signe de santé morale et intellectuelle d'une collectivité et de ses membres. Le mouvement étudiant n'échappe pas à la règle, et le dernier congrès du R.A.E.U. au sujet de la charte des droits étudiants en fait foi,

Ce projet de charte, issu de trop de conflits aux maigres résultats, soudainement refait surface pour rendre compte que, laissés sur leur faim, les étudiants nourrissent le souhait réel d'une légitimité d'opinion, de consultation et de décision auprès de la direction des institutions. On en a souventes fois parlé en temps de conflits, ce sont les étudiants qui font le plus souvent les frais des heures réduites d'ouverture des cafétérias, de l'application stricte du ratio étudiants/professeur, de la restriction des prêts et bourses, des conséquences pédagogiques du congédiement de certains professeurs pour des raisons idéologiques, comme on l'a vu à l'université de Montréal; et plus récemment encore par la hausse des frais aux étudiants étrangers. Si le poids additionnel des conséquences d'une grève, ou de tout moyen d'action amorcé en réponse à ces situations, retombe justement sur ceux qui en ont décidée, il est inadmissible que le fardeau de la preuve et de la perte, repose entier sur ceux pour qui le réseau éducationnel a été créé, alors que du côté de la direction, l'on touche grassement salaire et avantages sociaux, les cours dispensés ou pas. Les étudiants n'échappent pas non plus, malgré une certaine amitié d'occasion, aux sécuellles du syndicalisme enseignant. Il a été souvent dit, trop timidement peut-être, qu'à l'intérieur du système éducationnel, l'étudiant devrait obtenir voix au chapitre en ce qui a trait à l'évaluation de son propre rôle, dans l'appréciation du corps professoral, de la démarche pédagogique et du contenu des cours; en plus de pouvoir faire valoir certaines

"nouvelles" approches (on se souviendra de la proposition faite au sujet d'un cours d'agriculture biologique) auprès des départements concernés. Voilà en abrégé d'où semble émaner le projet de charte des droits étudiants: la reconnaissance légale de l'étudiant comme agent décisionnel au chapitre de l'instruction dispensée par son institution.

La dernière réunion du R.A.E.U. ne s'en est pas moins terminée sur un désaccord entre les délégués quant au choix d'une charte des droits ou d'un manifeste issu exclusivement des associations étudiantes. Grosse mode (grosso modo francisé...) les critiques faites au premier projet font les raisons du second.

Ne sentirions-nous pas un vague vent vieux annoncer doucereusement les petits oiseaux d'un printemps libéral? Enoncé facile s'il en est un, attendons nous donc à notre propre attitude.

Les étudiants et leurs représentants ont fort à faire afin de raffermir le sens de leur propre devoir, et démontrer par l'exemple au sein des organisations existantes, leurs capacités d'assumer les responsabilités qui leur incombent déjà.

Si antérieurement ces responsabilités eurent été plus entièrement endossées, le présent débat aurait possiblement moins raison d'être. La mobilité de la population étudiante n'est certes pas un atout à ce niveau.

Il faudra prendre garde de ce que cette charte pourrait dicter de taire du contenu de futures revendications étudiantes; se méfier également de ce canal unique par lequel se réglerait tous les conflits impliquant les étudiants. L'effet placebo (voir le désengagement des associations étudiantes) que pourrait entraîner une telle pilule sucrée, représente une crainte telle que la division s'est installée entre les tenants de la charte, et d'un projet de manifeste où se trouveraient inscrites les principales revendications étudiantes. Ce n'est pas demain la veille comme dirait les Gaulois...

La question vient toutefois à son heure, le débat reste ouvert, et un front commun sans rides demeure toujours à inventer. Il faut peut-être se demander aussi si le gouvernement, de dorer trop la pilule, ne tente pas de guérir son "malade imaginaire", et par attentes d'effets secondaires plus contractifs que tonifiant, apporter la paix et son paternalisme à son meilleur des mondes. Au jour d'aller à la pharmacie du pouvoir se procurer le remède miracle, comme pour les pastilles contre le rhume, faudra lire le mode d'emploi... avant.

Wilfrid Raby



Two moved, yet happy microbiology students showing an amazing new species of Salmonella (*S. giganticus*) cultured in our laboratories. (Photo: H.B.).

SCAFE
MIRVA,
à Ste-Anne.
UN COIN
CHAUD
POUR SE
DÉTENDRE,
A WARM, FRIENDLY PLACE
FOR YOUR STOMACH

Le projet de charte démontre premièrement l'incapacité des associations étudiantes et des étudiants derrière elles à défendre leurs propres intérêts; et c'est cette même incapacité, la frustration qu'elle cause, la constation qu'elle suscite - tant dans le milieu étudiant que syndical - qui ont amené le gouvernement à poser un regard plus pressé sur le problème. Semble-t-il que l'émoi que soulèvent des événements tels l'éventuelle condamnation de Bruno-Guy Héroux n'aura pas été en vain.

Il faut toutefois se surprendre de cette attention soudaine du gouvernement, alors que son mandat qui s'achève ne lui confère nullement de telles intentions. D'aucuns auront remarqués le silence imperturbable de ces mêmes promoteurs gouvernementaux en temps de conflits.

WILDLIFE FIELD TRIP

The Department of Renewable Resources offers a desert ecology course given as a Special Topics course every other year. Twenty students and four staff members are planning to leave Ste. Anne-de-Bellevue on April 16 in two vans. The trip will last three weeks.

We will reach the Texas coast on April 19, and we then go to the Big Bend National Park where we will study the desert area. The second point of interest will be Arizona, where we shall be visiting Cove Creek Canyon, the Sonoran Desert and Granite Canyon. A stop at Rocky Point, in Mexico, is also planned. We must not forget this a course, and other exams will have to be written before we leave.

Preliminary work must be done, as it is an intensive course. Students are asked to research and draw maps of these areas looking at topography, geology, soils, climate, and biome (vegetation).

These maps will serve as guide lines and will be completed as we go along. Field notebooks will also be used for personal observations and comments.

The trip will cost \$200/student plus registration fees. Food will be bought independently as we go along.

To decrease the cost of gas, many ideas were initiated by students. The activities can be listed as follows: 1) Selling pens



*LIFE in the
FAST LANE*



WILDLIFE DESERT ECOLOGY

at \$1 each (2 pens = 1 US gallon of gas)

2) Selling two different T-shirts for \$5 each to go on sale in the M-S Foyer.

3) Two carwashes to be held on Saturday March 28 and April 4.

4) Coat check at the Ceilidh at the end of the month.

5) A lottery, if possible.

Publicity will be found in the Mac Mouthpiece and throughout the College on posters as activities occur.

Your participation is needed and appreciated.

Francoise Desrochers and
Nathalie Zinger.

STUDENT EMPLOYMENT PROGRAM

Students interested in proposing a project under the Student Employment Program, should get more info. at the Student Placement Office. The briefing session is already passed, and applications must be in by March 16.

The projects should be non-profit; provide a minimum of three jobs lasting six weeks; not exceed \$50,000 or eighteen weeks duration. The other contact is:

Marielle Riendeau, 283-4777

folie...

Toi, douce amie,
qui fuit celui qui a l'âme cultivée par la raison,
et qui hante ceux qui ne t'ont pas comprise.

Toi qui, comme jadis tente vainement,
de trouver refuge dans cette dimension,
qui n'existe plus vraiment;
celle de la simplicité.

Et toi qui est la complice de la vérité,
tu réapprends à chaque fois que celui qui te protège,
et qui est attentif à ta présence,
pour que celle-ci lui soit la source de l'existence,
dans laquelle les qualités essentielles de sa vie,
puissent à chaque jour éclore fleur de printemps.

Celui-là, n'est nul autre que celui,
qui ne juge plus la beauté dans chaque chose,
avec l'oeil que son égoïsme lui impose,
mais bien plutôt avec cette protégée,
infiniment plus juste et bonne,
de l'intuition de son coeur...

Toi, douce amie, ton existence,
sommeille au-dedans de chacun de nous,
et celui qui commut avec toi,
a su t'appriivoiser,
et n'aura jamais assez de son existence temporelle,
pour découvrir en lui le pourquoi de ta présence.

Marc-Antoine Pelletier,



REPORT FROM V.I.P.

My assignment to the position of Internal V.P. was by acclamation in mid-september. I took the better part of september to get organized and realize what clubs or associations are operating at Mac. After meeting the Council members I was presented with the task of organizing Winter Carnival. It was slow to start but as the Carnival date approached the various committee members put the drive on. As Carnival is only a few short weeks away, members of the Carnival Committee are hard at work putting the final touches on the Program.

Last week saw the initiation of the committee for College Royal. Those students chosen for this committee seem enthusiastic about the "Royal" and should produce a successful one.

As I.V.P. it is my duty to attend Student Council and Finance meetings and exert my voting power. I have noticed at the Council meetings a general disorder due in whole or in part to the inadequate chairing of the meetings:

-firstly, the President should not chair meetings. His main purpose is to initiate and direct discussion, this cannot be effectively done as the Council now operates.

-secondly, the present chairman does not keep a speaking order list. This is essential for the maintenance of order at any meeting. Again it must be emphasized that the fact that the President of the Students' Council does not effectively exert his influence while acting as a chairman. The V.I.P. is a more obvious choice for this job.



Staff Hockey players show check they use to pay off the referee before so-called "victories" over U-3 in regular season games. (Photo: M.M.).

Another point of concern is the Peer Evaluations. They seem to be a rather idiotic method of evaluation leaving lots of room for bias influence. As I see it those members of the Executive showing their face at the Council office more often than others received acceptable evaluation. This does not indicate the job that each member is doing. Using myself as an example, I do not spend any considerable amount of time in my office. Frankly, I don't have time and most of the work I do is at home. Each member puts a fair bit of work into the Council, some for various reasons can't put the same time in as other members. For example, Gerald Post, as captain of the Woodsmen must spend lots of time organizing their events; HE SIMPLY DOES NOT HAVE THE TIME TO PUT INTO THE COUNCIL AS HE MAY WANT TO. One should not deny one member of the Executive his/her honorarium while giving it to others. The same applies to the appearance of a member on his/her transcript. Because each member puts as much time in as they can ALL SHOULD GET RECOGNITION FOR THEIR ATTEMPTS. I think it is pitiful that two members this year will receive no reward for their efforts (as minimal and insignificant they may appear). My views on the evaluations have not been

influenced by my own evaluation I have simply presented the situation as it is.

The final topic that needs mention is that concerning the position of permanent Secretary-Treasurer. This position is presently filled by a non-student, non-faculty member. Associated with this position is the power to vote on one student committee: the Finance committee. The position of CC Manager is also filled by the same non-student. Effectively, this non-student has as much voting influence as the President. Obviously this influence should come from students, and students only. The person presently filling the two positions mentioned is a capable manager and accountant who is employed by the Students' Council, this person is not elected to these positions and therefore should not have a vote. A more appropriate duty for a person employed as a manager-accountant would be that of a Council advisor, helping the CC Chairperson and advising the Student Treasurer.

On this note I sign off, hoping that my report has accurately described the situations involving the Students' Council and its members.

Vance Trudeau
V.I.P. 80-81

Judges being judged... certainly not on the shape of their hip bone.

undergraduate project & research

Many types of microorganisms are capable of producing polysaccharides. These can be generally classified into two groups: 1) homopolysaccharides consisting of only one type of sugar unit such as glucose (dextran) or fructose (levans) joined together through a linkage of the carbons on the sugar units; (2) heteropolysaccharides which consist of two or more types of sugars such as glucose and mannose (glucocomannans) or any combination of individual sugars and uronic acids (acid sugars). The polysaccharides can be found intracellularly as cell walls or capsules, or extracellularly as slime. Slimes have been studied in detail and are used extensively in industry.

The extracellular polysaccharides may have many functions. For example, protection against phagocytosis (ingestion of bacteria by leucocytes), amoe-



bic attack, bacteriophages (bacterial virus) and desiccation (drying up). Others include use as a source of energy and reserve carbon, aid in the uptake of ions especially those that are growth limiting. They also aid in dispersion in liquid environment.

The polysaccharides are produced by an enzyme action in the case of homopolysaccharides and DNA-RNA complex action in the action in the case of heteropolysaccharides.

These polysaccharides have many industrial uses such as blood extenders, in oil recovery, thickening agents in food, in paint; polysaccharides such as Sephadex which swell markedly in water but do not dissolve, are used as packing material in column chromatography.

Production of these polymers by microorganisms require sugars or some other carbon source. Sucrose and glucose have been used extensively in this connection. Lactose or milk sugar has not been used in polysaccharide production.

Lactose is found only in milk and is a disaccharide composed of glucose and galactose. In the production of cheese, most of the lactose is found in the whey after removal of the casein. Each year millions of tons of whey enters the rivers and lakes creating a pollution problem. With the soaring price of cane sugar, it seems reasonable to assume that lactose might be a cheap source of sugar for bacterial polysaccharide production.

Few bacteria are capable of direct conversion of lactose into polysaccharides. The first step is to seek out the bacteria capable of such biochemical activity.

Four such bacteria have been found. Work is now underway on a) finding conditions under which good yields of polysaccharides are produced, b) developing methods of isolation and purification c) studying the physical and chemical properties of the polymers and d) determining their chemical constitution.

Susan Pye
Dept. Agr. Chem.

